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tomers-we can satisfy you.

our new line of jewelry, diamonds, watches, clocks, silverware, cut glass, etc., surpasses anything we have heretofore shown.

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SPECIAL HOLIDAY OFFER—Watches—We mention here but a few of our creatile. Carleman's coverage Gold-filled American street in the

of our specials: Gentlemen's 20-year Gold-filled American stem winders and setters, \$10. Ladies' 20-year Gold-filled stem winders and setters, \$10. Gentlemen's 14-k Solid Gold American stem winders and setters, \$10. cheap as \$25. Children's Solid Silver Watches, pin attachment, \$3.50; regular price, \$4.50. Ladies' Solid Gold Watches, open face, \$8.00. Boys' Solid Silver Watches, \$5.00 up.

DIAMONDS.—Nothing more pleasing for a Christmas offering than a diamond. We have Ladies' diamond rings, \$5.00 to \$150.00. Ladies' diamond broaches, \$5.50 to \$1,000.00. Diamond ear rings, \$15.00 to \$500.00. Diamond scarf pins, \$7.00 up. Diamond cuff buttons, \$7.00 up. Diamond studs, \$10.00 up. We have Ladies' handsome diamond rings, set in Tiffany

mounting, which we are selling at \$25.00. This will make an appropriate present for Christmas. Every stone a ball of fire.

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JUDGING A CIGAR.

The Only Real Way to Find Its Quality Is to Smoke It-Smelling It Is Useless.

On no point is the average smoker so ill informed as that of judging a cigar. Nine times out of ten, upon being handed a cigar, he will hold it to his nose, unlighted, sniff at the wrapper with a critical air and deliver his verdict in a self satisfied manner. This characteristic maneuver is always a source of amusement to any tobacco man who happens to observe it. There is only one way to ascertain the quality of a cigar, and that is to smoke it. No expert will pass judgment on a cigar until he has lighted it and smoked it well down toward the middle. The first and most important point upon which he bases his opinion is the "burn." Tobacco may have every other virtue, but if it does not hold | cial." the fire and burn evenly it is poor tobacco. Next in order of importance comes the aroma-the smoke must have a pleasing "smell;" next comes the flavor-the smoke must be smooth and not "scratchy" or bitter. Then there is the color-rich brown, indicating a ripe leaf, well cured—and last is workmanship-good if the wrapper is put on smoothly and the "bunch" is made so that the cigar "draws" freely and is neither too hard nor too spongy, bad if the reverse.-Bohemian Maga-

### ROMANCE OF HISTORY.

These Things Read Like Legends, but

Are Matters of Fact. A peasant girl called half witted did promise to defeat the victors of Agincourt and did it; it ought to be a and eloped secretly to a sunny clime; it is obviously a three volume novel, but it happened. Nelson did die in the act of winning the one battle that could change the world; it is a grossly improbable coincidence, but it is too 454 New York Avenue, N. W. | late to alter it now. Napoleon did win

Austerniz, R 18 Upnatu ral, but it is not my fault. When the general who had surrendered a republican town returned, saying easily, "I have done everything," Robespierre coughed in his cold harangue Garnier did say, "The blood of Danton chokes you." Strafford did say of his own desertion of parliament, "If I do it may my life and death be set on a hill for all men to wonder at." Disraeli did say, "The time will come when you

shall hear me." and a fact is a thing which can be ad-Chesterton in London News.

No Drums In the Middle Ages. As we come to the middle ages, that at first the drum was not used at all. So, although melody had been known and practiced for many centuries, rhythm had been quite forgotten, for what there is left to us of the music of the middle ages contains no bars, and we know that it was slowly and monotonously chanted,

without the least accent. In the eleventh century, however, things began to improve, more particularly as the crusaders brought into Europe all sorts of percussion instruments from the east. Various kinds of drums, tambourines and cymbals were then seen in Europe for the first time since the days of savages, and they change, ever since.-St. Nicholas.

An Epistolary Hint. In the letter from Boston was a

special delivery stamp. "What did she send that for?" the

woman wondered. "The information she wants can be sent in an ordinary letter. It won't need to be sent spe-

"That stamp," said the man, "is a delicate hint to be quick about answering. It is a hurry up device used by many men. It is very effective. A two cent stamp does not always spur one on to any special effort, but a special delivery stamp means that the writer wants what he wants when he wants it, and the most dilatory corgrass grow between the scratches of his pen when answering."-New York

Mantle Rays.

"There are X rays and X rays, and there are also rays from those mantle things that you put on gas burners to improve the light." The speaker, a photographer, pointed to a batch of fogged plates. "I know to my cost that there are mantle rays," said he. "For a month I stored new plates in legend, but it happens to be a fact. a closet along with a mantle, and all A poet and a poetess did fall in love of them got fogged. The mantle, you see, centained thorium, a radio-active substance that penetrates a cardboard plate box as easily as it penetrates glass. I didn't know that till my doctor told me so last week. My ignorance cost me over a hundred slates." -New York Press.

### ANSWERED THE LETTER.

A Politician Won a Bet That American Statesmen Reply to Courteous Letters From the Humblest Citizens.

There is, or was a few years ago, & neatly framed letter hanging in the consulting room of a Brooklyn doctor which he found in his mail one winter morning. It ran as follows:

Princeton, Jan. 12, 1898.

Dear Sir—I cheerfully accede to your request and acknowledge the compliment paid to my wife and daughter by bestowing their names upon your own twin daughters, and I hope these children may be spared to be of constant comfort to their preprint. Princeton, Jan. 12, 1898. their parents. Sincerely yours, GROVER CLEVELAND.

The young doctor's brain whirled. Being a bachelor and having no acquaintance with the former president. he could not understand it at all.

The mystery was solved when a friend of the doctor's, a Brooklyn politician, met him. The politician had made a bet with a cynical acquaintance that any American statesman would personally reply to a courteous letter from the humblest of his countrymen. he cynic took him up and named Grover Cleveland. The terms of the bet were that the answer to a letter mailed on Jan. 3 must be received before Jan. 25. Signing the young doctor's name, the politician wrote of how his marriage had been blessed by twin daughters. Would it be asking too much for an autograph letter to frame which the sweet twins could look upon and read when they grew up and cherish ever afterward?

Mr. Cleveland courteously and promptly answered the letter, and the politician won his bet.-New York Tribune.

### CORRECT SPELLING.

There Was a Time When It Was Not Considered Important.

The art of spelling words correctly is of comparatively recent repute. Time was when men and women did not care, but wrote ahead without regard to strict orthography. Mme. de Sevigne, for instance, never learned the proper way to write her name, while it was remarked by Mme. de Maintenon that at the College of St. Cyr much precious time was wasted in learning how to spell.

It remained, however, for the Empress Eugenie in 1868 at Complegne to put to a practical test the spelling standard which obtained even among the highest literary authorities. Thus under the pretext of a theme proposed to them for an examination a number of French academicians took down from dictation a composition by Prosper Merimee. Not one "immortal" wrote without mistake.

As to the empress, she could not understand so many faults being made until it was conveyed to her that she herself from the same dictation was responsible for no less than pinety. The emperor, again, made sixty. It is but fair to add, however, that the dicdid ask, with an air of inquiry, tation was compiled expressly with a "Are you dead?" When Robespierre view to focusing the difficulties not only of spelling, but grammar.-Harper's Weekly.

A Versatile Parisian.

A quaint Parisian character was Mlle. Montansier, an actress, who, while on the stage one night, heard Marie Antoinette say, "How good that The heroic is a fact, even when it is cabbage soup they are eating smells! a fact of coincidence or of miracle, The actress took a bowl round to the royal box and that night supped with mitted without being explained .- G. K. | Marie Antoinette, an honor to which the highest nobles in France dared not aspire, thence in due course becoming manager of the fetes at Versailles. Later she was a sort of queen of the when the nations of modern Europe | Palais Royal and sent to the war a were struggling into existence, we find | band of actors who performed farces between two battles. She obtained 8,000,000 francs from the revolutionary government, almost married Napoleon or so Barras said-and had her last love affair when she was eighty-five. When she died she bequeathed all her creditors to the king of France.

A Heroic Slave.

There was a humble slave in the palace of the Caliph Haroun al Raschid. The caliph had in his audience chamber twenty rare vases, and it was written in the laws of Bagdad that he who should have the misfortune to break one of these would pay the penalty with his life. This slave one day have been used, with very little | broke a vase. He was instantly seized, tried and condemned to death. But the caliph had no sooner pronounced sentence on him than the slave turned. and, walking calmly to the other nineteen vases, with one sweep of the arm destroyed them all. "Wretch," the caliph thundered,

why have you done that barbarous deed?" "To save the lives of nineteen of

my fellow countrymen," the doomed slave replied.

Munich an Artistic Leader. Munich is in great part a creation of

the nineteenth century. Yet when one sees how artfully and lovingly she has woven the new about whatever remains of the old it is easy to underrespondent alive is not going to let any stand why she has been Germany's artistic leader for the last hundred years and why such geniuses as Lenbach, Von Uhde, Schwanthaler, Orlando di Lasso and Richard Strauss have felt at home there. - Robert Haven Schauffler in Century.

The Desire For Appearance. The Village Grocer (peevishly)-Look here, Aaron! What makes you put the big apples in the top of the bar'l? The Honest Farmer (cheerily)-What makes you comb that long scalp lock over your bald spot?-Puck.

Miss Belle (warningly)-Sally, they used to tell me when I was a little girl that if I did not let coffee alone it would make me foolish. Sally (who owes her one)-Well, why didn't you?

### ROYAL MAIDS,

It Is They Who Must Always Do the Proposing When They Wish to Marry

When a reigning queen is to be married she must be the one to broach the subject first to her future consort. The same rule holds good with regard to all royal ladies who marry commoners.

The late Queen Victoria has told how she managed to "put the question" to Prince Albert-how she firs showed him Windsor and its beauties and the distant landscape and then said, "All this may be yours." The queen of Holland on a like occasion simply sent a sprig of white heather, begging Prince Henry to look out its meaning in a book of flowers and their meanings. The Duchess of Argyll took the following means of proposing to the Marquis of Lorne: She was about to attend a state ball and gave it out that she would choose as her partner for the first dance the man she intended to honor. She selected the marquis, who subsequently became her husband.

But perhaps the most interesting of all ways chosen was that of the Duchess of Fife. She took the earl, as he then was, to a drawer and showed him its contents. There he saw a number of trifles he had given her at different times, including sprigs of several kinds of flowers, now dead, he had picked for her at various times. He was much impressed at the sight, nor did it require words on her part to make her meaning plain.-London Answers.

### ADENOIDS.

The Way These Growths Endanger the Health of Children.

Adenoids are curious little cauliflow er-like growths which appear at the junction of the nasal cavity and the pharynx. They are often observed at birth, but they seldom cause discomfort until some months later. Then they interfere with respiration and cause the baby to be restless. It tosses in its sleep and wakens suddenly, crying out as if in distress.

If adenoids are permitted to remain they deform the mouth, teeth, throat, chest and face. At their worst they produce pop eyes and what is called a frog face. They cause mouth breathing, with all its attendant evils. They open the way for a hundred and one ills, from rupture of the eardrum, running from the ears, coughs and tonsili-

tis to pulmonary tuberculosis. A slight operation suffices to remove thom. The baby suffers little pain and loses little blood. Out they come, and with them the overgrown tonsils that commonly accompany them. If they are suffered to remain they may never be discovered. But it is certain that in one way or another, directly or indirectly, they will cause damage.-Dr. Leonard Keene Hirshbergin in Deline-

Yarmouth's Narrow Street.

Kitty Witches row, Great Yarmouth, can justly claim to be the narrowest street in the world, the entrance at one end being only twentynine inches and at the other fifty-six inches. It gives some idea of the width when one mentions that neighbors can shake hands and put out each other's candles across the street! Why these rows have been so constructed has given rise to a good deal of discussion. Some writers give the reason that when there was a very high tide the water might flow through them; others, in the event of an invasion they would prove an excellent means of defense or that the ground plans of the rows were suggested by the fishermen's nets, which, spread on the dunes to dry, had a narrow pathway left between them, which represented the rows. Yarmouth has 145 rows, and their total length exceeds seven miles, Kitty Witches being the most interesting and the narrowest of all.

How Faraday Refused a Pension. Lord Melbourne once announced to Faraday that it was his pleasing duty to offer him a pension, but, he added, "I suppose all this science is humbug." Faraday at once replied, "If that is your opinion, my lord, I decline the pension," and retired. Melbourne, on meeting some of his colleagues, said: "I have had a strange thing happen. A man has declined a pension." But these gentlemen knew Faraday's position and reputation better than the premier and urged him to rectify the blunder. Faraday was again interviewed, but Melbourne was obliged to retract and apologize before the pension was accepted.

London Snowstorms. The purifying effect of a snowstorm

on city air was shown in London by experiments which demonstrated five times the amount of impurities on week days, when all the factories are active, as on Sundays. It was figured out that nevertheless a single Sunday snowstorm carried to the surface of the county of London 75 tons of dissolved solids, 142 tons of suspended matters, 160 tons of coal, 25 tons of salt and a ton of ammonia.-London Chronicle.

A Sudden Start. "You used to go to school with Coppers, the new millionaire, didn't you?"

"I did. Fact is, I gave him his first start in life.' "How?"

"With a bent pin."-Cleveland Plain

On His Birthday.

He-The worst thing about me is my nose, I've got such a beastly one. She -You shouldn't say such things about a gift. He-A gift? I-ah-don't understand. She-Wasn't it a birthday present?-New York Journal.

Wherever we meet misery we owe l pity.-Dryden.